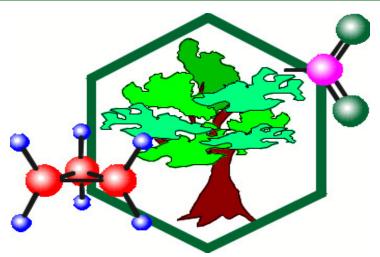
US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# Moving Schools from Hazardous and Toxic Chemicals Towards Safe, Green and Sustainable Chemistry



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## **Schools Chemical Cleanouts:**

Cleanouts are just the beginning to change. Schools must develop and implement an integrated chemical management program.

Here is our journey towards a safer, greener and sustainable system for the management of chemicals in schools.

#### -ICM Team, 2011

# Why we are here!



Do no harm to our children!

#### Integrated Chemical Management

- "the pharmacy" approach
- Centralized, controlled stockroom
- All "stock" chemicals are removed from the classrooms, prep areas & labs
- All chemicals are inventoried
- Proper storage & labels
- Real time chemical database
- Complete MSDS library
- Controlled purchasing
- "Mercury Free" schools
- Assistance, Training & Education

#### Managing our chemical resources

What, Where, When & Why

- What do you have?
- Where are these chemicals?
- When are these chemicals on site?
- Why have ALL these CHEMICALS?

#### Over 60+ School ICM Partners: 2011

•	Brockton HS	4145	•	Lowell HS	3403
•	Carver HS	932	•	Malden HS*	1799
•	Dracut HS	1114	•	Natick HS	1303
•	Duxbury HS	963	•	Pike School	439
•	Greater Lawrence			Scituate HS	906
	Regional HS*	1222	•	Scituate MS	508
•	Hanover HS*	699	•	Wellesley HS	1294
•	Haverhill HS*	1748	•	Wellesley MS	1135
•	Littleton HS	412		·	
			•	Total Students	22,022

# Schools Integrated Chemical Management Partnerships 2011

- 14 Massachusetts High Schools (1 Private)
- 2 MA Middle schools
- 13 Schools: Summer 2011
- 3,019 pounds removed
- 297 mercury thermometers
- 5 mercury barometers
- 31 mercury devises
- 13.3 pounds elemental mercury









#### Root Causes: Schools Chemical Risk

- Not an OSHA state: chemical hygiene regulations do not apply
- No state chemical laboratory regulations
- Absence of college/university pre-school training
- Chemistry textbooks do not address chemical hazard characteristics
- Chemistry teachers do not take toxicology
- Outdated safety equipment & storage areas
- Everyone avoids the chemical issues

# **EPA's Region 1 ICM Program**

- Unique and <u>FREE</u> on-site assistance program
- A pilot project that went viral
- NOT a "chemical cleanout project"
- Integrated Chemical Management (ICM)
- An ongoing partnership to reduce RISK
- ICP depends on volunteers, students and regional staff
- Each schools poses different challenges
- Training & Education for teachers are crucial

#### **Integrated Chemical Management Protocol**

- Meet, Walk-Thru & Discuss
- Request for Assistance
- Screen & Collect chemicals & mercury
- Organize and separate chemicals by compatibility
- Identify RCRA waste, unwanted & outdated

- Consolidate chemicals
- Inventory every stock chemical container
- Consolidate & process
   RCRA waste & others
- Clean & lip shelves
- Re-stock shelves
- Label shelves
- Secure RCRA Haz.
   Waste & Mercury















# AMNONIUM NITRATE NHN03









# **ICM Chemical Inventory Database**

- Multi field, <u>"real-time"</u> Excel database
- Includes every stock chemical container
- Chemical, S/L/G, CAS#, Suppliers, Size & Type
- RCRA Yes/No Waste, RCRA Haz Waste Code
- MSDS's NFPA/HMIS Codes for Health, Flammability & Reactivity & PPE
- Multi locations can be included
- Requires posting on shared drive (read only)
- A designated gatekeeper controls the database

#### Chemical Inventory Database: (xls)

CHEMICAL NAME	S/G/L	CAS#	SUPPLIER	AMOUNT	T Y P E	Haz Waste	RCRA Code	Health	Flamability	Reactivity	PPE
1- Napthol	S	90-15-3				N	N	2	1	0	E
1-Pentanol (See N- Amyl Alcohol)	L	71-41-0				Y	D001	2	3	0	н
Abscisic Acid	S	14375-45-2				N	N	2	1	0	E

# What is RISK?

RISK = Hazard X Exposure

Hazard = Health,
Flammability & Reactivity

#### Chemicals of Unreasonable RISK

- Metals: Pb, Hg, Cd, Ba, Co
- Chromates & Cyanides
- Water reactive: Na & K
- Phosphorous
- Hydrofluoric acid
- Chromic acid
- Sulfides
- Azide
- Thermit

- Paradichlorobenzene
- Naphthalene
- Formaldehyde
- Benzene, Phenol
- Oxidizers: 30% H2O2,
   Chlorates & Permaganates
- Boric acid (ECHA VHC)
- Phenolphphthalein (ECHA VHC)
- Lecture Gas Cylinders

## How schools address "Why"

- Assistance, Training & Education
- Control future inventory through hazard ranking
- Prohibit extremely hazardous or toxic chemicals/materials (not a prescribed list)
- Prohibit any mercury containing devices
- Require all chemical orders to address hazard(s)
- Understand the limitations of an MSDS
- Develop a school specific chemical safety program
- Promote greener, safer and sustainable science through non-toxic, less hazardous chemicals
- Continuous improvement through partnerships with EPA, Beyond Benign & others

# Why partner with Beyond Benign?

- Internationally recognized advocate for green chemistry in education
- Workshops, conferences, & trainings
- "Drop in replacement" labs
- Integrated approach (K-12) programs
- Real world, exciting labs & supporting materials
- Great friends who "Get it"

## Spreading the Word

- Direct referrals from other science dept
- Emergency Responders: Fire Dept
- Science & teachers conferences: Posters & Talks
- Beyond Benign & Mass Ed
- Next generation of superintendents
- Press, Awards & Internet exposure
- Friends, teachers, parents & concerned citizens
- You must be able to walk the talk!
- Email Dwight at <u>Peavey.Dwight@EPA.GOV</u>